

DETAILED ACTION

Reasons for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
2. The prior art fails to teach or make obvious a parts washer comprising: a cleaning chamber; a receptacle into which parts to be cleaned are placed, the receptacle being rotatably mounted within the cleaning chamber; a plurality of spray manifolds, each spray manifold having a plurality of spray jets arranged to spray cleaning fluid toward the receptacle, the spray manifolds being moveably mounted within the cleaning chamber and comprising at least one horizontal spray manifold coupled with an interconnecting manifold which extends in a generally vertical direction, the interconnecting manifold arranged to reciprocate in an arc about a vertical axis to cause the at least one horizontal manifold to undergo reciprocal movement in a generally horizontal plane and to spray cleaning fluid in a generally vertical direction toward the receptacle and a vertical spray manifold spaced from the interconnecting manifold and arranged to undergo reciprocal linear motion generally along a longitudinal axis of the vertical spray manifold to spray cleaning fluid in a generally horizontal direction toward the receptacle; an inlet manifold coupled to, and in fluid communication with, both the interconnecting manifold and the vertical manifold, the inlet manifold supplying a common cleaning fluid simultaneously to the plurality of spray manifolds wherein the common cleaning fluid is sprayed simultaneously from the at least one horizontal spray manifold and the vertical spray manifold toward the receptacle; and

a spray manifold drive motor coupled to the plurality of spray manifolds and arranged to simultaneously drive the at least one horizontal spray manifold and the vertical spray manifold wherein the at least one horizontal spray manifold and the vertical spray manifold simultaneously undergo their respective reciprocal motions.

3. In particular, the prior art fails to teach or make obvious a nozzle arrangement including a horizontal spray manifold, interconnecting manifold, vertical spray manifold, and inlet manifold arranged such that the interconnecting manifold is arranged to reciprocate in an arc about a vertical axis to cause the at least one horizontal manifold to undergo reciprocal movement in a generally vertical direction, and the vertical spray manifold spaced from the interconnecting manifold is arranged to undergo reciprocal linear motion generally along a longitudinal axis of the vertical spray motion, wherein a drive motor coupled to the spray manifolds is arranged to simultaneously drive the horizontal spray manifold and the vertical spray manifold to undergo their respective reciprocal motions.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JASON Y. KO whose telephone number is 571-270-7451. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday; 9:30am-7:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MICHAEL BARR can be reached on 571-272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JYK/
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/Michael Barr/
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